

Planning Commission Date: October 22, 2003

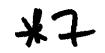
Item No.

MILPITAS PLANNING COMMISSION AGENDA REPORT

Report prepared by: Kim Duncan Category: New Business Yes: No: X Public Hearing: Published On: N/A Posted On: N/A Notices Mailed On: N/A TITLE: "S" ZONE AMENDMENT NO. P-SA2003-128 Request to remove nine (9) trees in the Hillside district. Proposal: Location: (APN: 29-03-018) **RECOMMENDATION:** Approval with conditions Frank Houghton, 4791 Pinemont Drive, Campbell, CA 95008 Applicant: Same as applicant Property Owner: Hillside Site & Architectural Approval, Variance No. 428, 'S' Zone Previous Action(s): Approval EIA's Nos. 233 & 233A Environmental Info: General Plan Designation: Single-Family Hillside Low Density "R1-H" (Single Family-Hillside) Present Zoning: Vacant land Existing Land Use: Agenda Sent To: Applicant/owner Plans, letter from applicant dated October 2, 2003, photos, arborist Attachments: report, Exhibit "B" of Resolution 6066 PJ No. N/A

BACKGROUND

In 1979, the Planning Commission approved an 'S' Zone application for a single family home in the northwest corner of the subject site. The home was never built and the Site and Architectural approval expired. In 1986, the Planning Commission considered a variance application to allow a single-family residence to encroach into the Crestline Zone of Protection and determined there PAGE 2 OF 5
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was no justification for the variance. In 2000, the City Council approved an application for a new 2,775 square foot single family residence with an 828 square foot garage on the subject site.

Site Description

The project site is a 1.29 acre triangular shaped parcel located within the Hillside Combining District. The southeast portion of the site is bound by Country Club Drive, with the undeveloped Countryside Estates subdivision to the north, Summitpoint to the east, and single-family Hillside homes on the south and west. Currently, the project site is undeveloped and several mature trees and shrubs are located on the southern portion of the site. There is a gully caused by soil erosion from water flow located south of the proposed driveway where several trees and shrubs are growing.

The project site contains eleven (11) ordinance sized trees consisting of one (1) Oak (Quercus agrifolia), three (3) Giant Chinkapins (Quercus muehlenbergii), two (2) Figs (Ficus carica), four (4) Elderberrys (Sambucus mexicana), and one (1) Pepper tree (Schinus anacardiaceae).

THE APPLICATION

This application is submitted pursuant to Title 11, Chapter 10. Section 42.10 ('S' Zone Applications for Modification or Amendment), Section 45.18 (Grading Requirements), Title 10, Chapter 2, Section 4.02 (Permit Required for Removal), and Section 7.01 (Existing Trees Protected) of the Milpitas Municipal Code.

According to the Municipal Code, protected trees are defined as any tree with a trunk circumference of thirty-seven (37") inches or greater (Section 7.01-Existing Trees Protected). In addition, any tree in the hillside with a trunk diameter of six (6") inches or greater requires Planning Commission approval prior to removal (Chapter 10, Section 45.18-3).

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The property owner/applicant is requesting approval to remove three (3) protected trees and six (6) trees with a diameter greater than six (6") inches in the Hillside zoning district. As stated in the applicant's letter of request, the City granted the applicant building permits for the construction of a one (1) story single-family residence on the site. The applicant subsequently submitted plans to the building division for a grading permit revision to install a storm drain and outfall that indicated the removal of the trees. The nine (9) trees proposed for removal include one Oak (Tree #1), two (2) Figs (Tree #4 & 5), two (2) Giant Chinkapins (Tree #6 & 7) and four (4) Elderberrys (Tree #8, 9, 10, & 11). The two (2) Giant Chinkapins and one (1) Fig tree (Tree #5) are located where the approved driveway will be installed. The one Oak tree, four (4) Elderberrys and remaining Fig tree are located below the driveway in an existing erosion-induced gully where the proposed drain and outfall will be installed. The applicant will replace any trees approved for removal at a five to one (5:1) tree-replacement planting ratio as specified in Section 45.18 (Grading Requirements) of the zoning ordinance.

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ISSUES

Conformance with the General Plan and Zoning Ordinance

The proposed project complies with the City's General Plan Implementing Policy 2.aI-18; which requires development to be in keeping with the natural character of the hillside and that views are protected. The proposed project will remove nine (9) trees on the parcel, however replacement trees will be planted at a five to one (5:1) replacement ratio on the site and native, indigenous species will be used.

The purpose of the Hillside Combining District is to promote and encourage the orderly development of the hillside area by the application of requirements established to address problems associated with development, including, but not limited to geologic problems, slope, safe access and visibility. In addition, the Hillside District Grading Requirements (Section 45.18-3) requires hillside tree replacement planting at a ratio of five (5) to one (1). The proposed project complies with the City's Zoning Ordinance in terms of visibility and replacement in that any trees removed will be replaced at a ratio of five to one (5:1).

Tree Removal

On October 8, 2003, at the request of staff, the City Arborist inspected all on-site trees to evaluate their conditions. He determined that three (3) trees meet the requirements of "protected" in accordance with Section 7.01 of the Milpitas Municipal Code, and six (6) trees have a trunk diameter greater than six (6). The following observations were made by the City arborist of the nine (9) trees proposed for removal:

Trees Proposed for Removal

Tree #	Туре	DBH (inches)	Dead Wood	Weak Attachments	Decay
1	Oak	24*		X	
4	Fig-multi-plant	6			
5	Fig-multi-plant	6			
6	G. Chinkapin	32*	X		X
7	G. Chinkapin	28.5*			Х
8	Elderberry	8	Х		х
9	Elderberry	7	Х		X
10	Elderberry	7	х		X
11	Elderberry	7	Х		Х

^{*=}Protected per MMC (2-7.01)



The two (2) Giant Chinkapin trees (Tree # 6 & 7) proposed for removal range from 28" to 32" in diameter. It was determined by the City Arborist that both trees display signs of decay and dead wood. In addition, staff noted that both trees have sustained a fair amount of damage from recent on-site grading. According to the City Arborist, both Giant Chinkapin trees were likely "volunteer" trees and not planted/nurtured to be specimen trees.

The two (2) Fig trees proposed for removal are multi-plant specimens with diameters of 6". According to the arborist, the figs appear to be in good condition and naturalized in their environment. However, fig trees are native to western Asia and the Mediterranean and not indigenous to the eastern foothills.

The four (4) Elderberry trees (Tree # 8, 9, 10, & 11) proposed for removal range from 7" to 8" in diameter and are in moderate health. However, according to the City Arborist, they exhibit signs of decay and dead wood.

The one (1) Oak (Tree #1) proposed for removal has a 24" diameter trunk and is located at the toe of the gully. While the Oak is growing out of the side of the gully and has a dual trunk, the applicant has expressed an interest in retaining the oak on site. However, according to the City Arborist, the Oak has more upright and vertical branches, creating acute angles of attachment, which increases the weight of stress at the crotch or branch attachment. In addition, the City Arborist indicated that any construction in the immediate vicinity of the tree could weaken the tree further. The applicant intends to keep the Oak on site, however is including the Oak in this tree removal application in the event the tree needs to be removed.

Tree Replacement

The applicant is proposing to replace any tree removed from the project site at a five to one (5:1) ratio in accordance with the Hillside District Grading Requirements (Section 45.18-3). In addition, the applicant will select replacement tree species using the City's recommended Hillside tree planting species list from the City's Hillside Landscaping Water Conservation Policy, Exhibit "B" (Resolution 6066). Staff recommends, as a condition of approval, replacement trees be a minimum 24" box size.

Community Impact

It is anticipated that the removal of the one (1) Oak, two (2) Giant Chinkapins, and two (2) Fig and four (4) Elderberry trees will not create any unreasonable interference with views and privacy, because tree replacement at a five to one (5:1) ratio will beautify the approved future development of the site and have a positive affect on hillside views and privacy.

Conformance with CEQA

The proposed project is categorically exempt from further environmental review pursuant to Class 4, Section 15304 ("Minor Alterations to Land") of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

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RECOMMENDATION

Approve "S" Zone Amendment No. P-SA2003-138 based on the Findings and Special Conditions listed below:

FINDINGS

- 1. As conditioned, the proposed project is consistent with the City's General Plan Implementing Policy 2.aI-18; which requires development to be in "keeping with the natural character of the hillside and that views are protected".
 - The quantity of replacement trees and use of indigenous species is in keeping with the natural landscape and will protect views from the valley floor and hillside.
- 2. The project is consistent with the City's Zoning Ordinance in terms of avoiding unreasonable interference with views, privacy and preserving the natural landscape
 - The planting of replacement trees at a high ratio and with indigenous species will enhance the privacy of the property owner, protect views from the valley floor and hillside, and preserve the natural landscape of the parcel.
- 3. As conditioned, the layout of the site and design of future landscaping will be compatible and aesthetically harmonious because:
 - The use of indigenous tree species will aesthetically enhance the natural landscape.
- 4. This project is categorically exempt from further environmental review pursuant to Class 4, Section 15304 (Minor Alterations to Land) of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Guidelines.

SPECIAL CONDITIONS

- 1. The approval of 'S' Zone Amendment No. P-SA2003-128 is for the removal of one (1) Oak, two (2) Giant Chinkapin, two (2) Fig, and four (4) Elderberry trees as indicated on Sheet 1 of the approved plans, dated October 22, 2003. This approval is also for the installation of forty-five (45) 24" box replacement indigenous trees. (P)
- 2. Prior to the removal of any tree, the one (1) oak tree shall be tagged with an identification number corresponding to the plans and to the satisfaction of the City Arborist. (P)
- 3. Prior to the building permit final, the applicant shall provide to city staff a revised landscaping plan showing proposed tree location, species type, box size and proposed irrigation to the approval of the Planning Division. (P)
- 4. The project shall be conducted in compliance with all appropriate local, state and federal laws and regulations. (P)
- (P) = Planning Division (408) 586-3273

To: City of Milpitas, planning division

From: Frank Houghton

Date: 10/2/2003

Subject: Removal of five trees at 1485 Country Club Ln., Milpitas CA.

The City of Milpitas, CA has granted me a building permit #B-BP2002-64 for a signal family home at 1485 Country Club Ln. The construction of this house, driveway and storm drain requires me to remove nine existing trees. These trees are directly in the path of this approved construction (see grading plan enclosed). I would like to ask your permission to remove these trees as soon as possible, so that I can proceed with my approved house construction. I understand that I will be required to replace these trees after the house construction is complete, and landscaping begins.

Thank you.

Frank Houghton

Owner

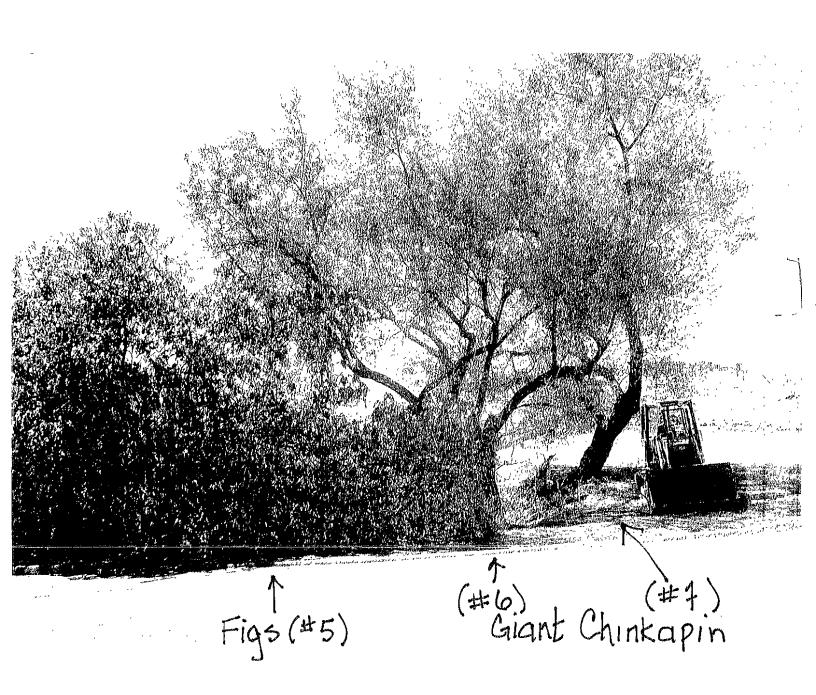
2003 STREET TREE INSPECTION

ADDRESS	TREE #	ТҮРЕ	AGE	СВН	DBH	HEIGHT	CAN	CANOPY STRUCTURE			ROOTS			М	MAINT.			
							нетсит	WIDTH	Poor architecture	Dead wood	Cracks	Weak attachments	Decay	Surface	Growing space	Girdling	Property damage And	e year
1485 Country Club	j	CAK	<u> </u>		24	25	20	25				X						
/	4	Fig			6		20	24										
	5	F19:			32	20	26	20										
	6	Fig. G-Chinkpin G-Chinkpin Elder Barry			32	36	20	40		V			X					
	7	G-Chinkson			285	40	35	35					X					
	8	Elder Berry			Š	20	15	15		X			χ					
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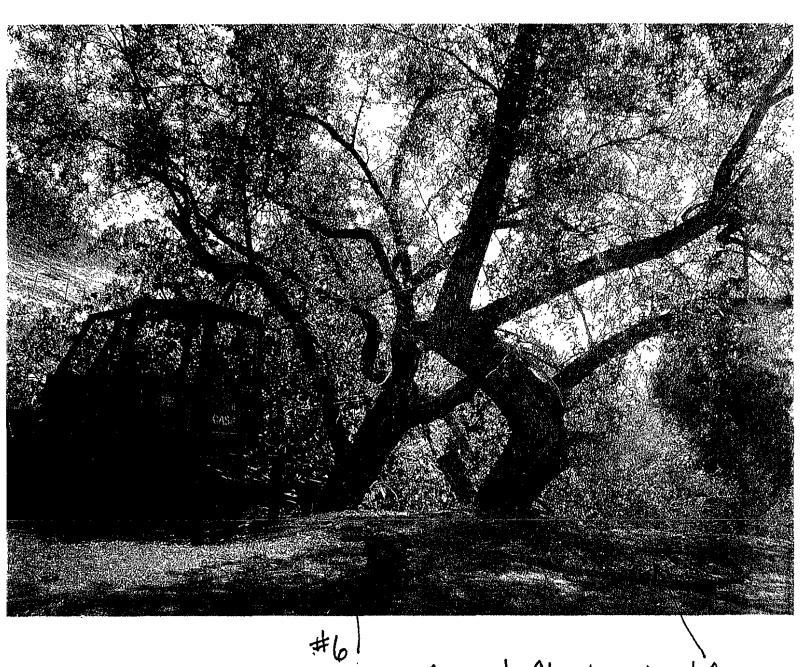
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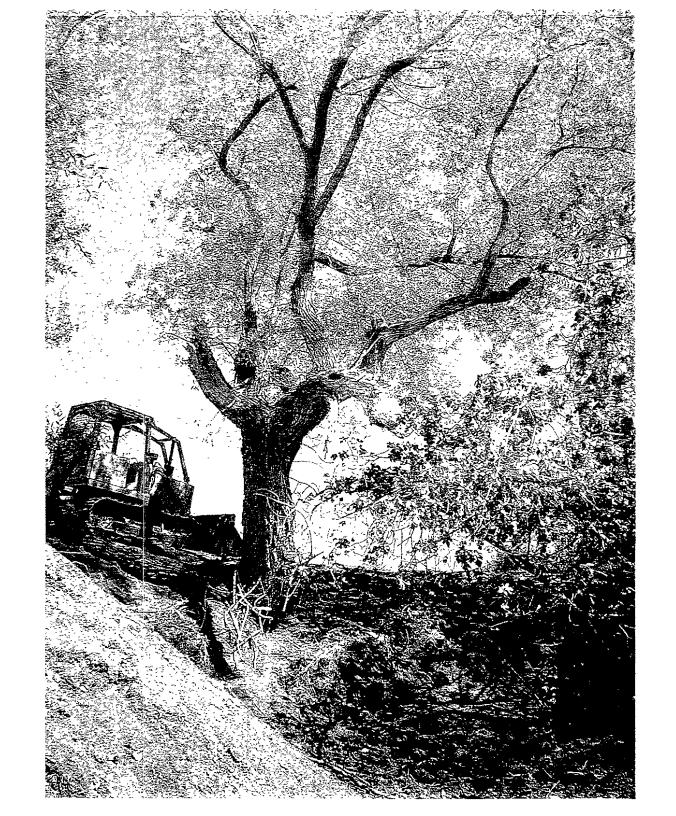
DATE: 10-9-03



1485 Country Club Dr.



Grant Chinkapin #7



Giant Chinkapin (#6)



Figs (#5)



Oak(#1)



Oak in gully (#1)

EXHIBIT "B"

TREES

Acacia baileyana	Balley Acacia
Aesculus californica	California Buckeye
Agonis flexuosa	Peppermint Tree or Australian Willow Myrtle
Carpinus betulus 'Fastigiata'	European Hornbeam
Casuarina cunninghamiana	River She-Oak
stricta	Mountain or Drooping She-Oak or Coast Beefwood
Cedrus atlantica	Affae Codor
deodara	
Celtis australis	
electric	European Hackberry
sinensis	Chinese Hackberry
Ceratonia siliqua	Carob of St. John's Bread
Cercis canadensis	
Crataegus phaenopyrum	Washington Thorn
Eriobotrya deflexa	Bronze Loquat
_ Japonica	Loquat
Fraxinus americana	White Ash
oxycarpa 'Raywood'	Raywood Ash
uhdei	Evergreen Ash
Geijera parviflora	Australian Willow or Wilga
Ginko biloba	Maidenhair Tree
Juglans nigra	Black Walnut
Koelreuteria henryi bipinnata	Chinese Flame Tree
paniculata	Goldenrain Tree
Lagerstroemia indica	Crape Myrile
Laurus 'Saratoga'	Hybrid Laurel
Malus 'Robinson'	Robinson Crabapple
Melaleuca linariifolia	Flaxleaf Paperbark Tree
stypheliodes	Prickly Melaleuca
quinquenervia	Cajeput Tree
Metrosideros excelsa	New Zealand Christmas Tree or Pohutukawa
Olea europa	European Olive
Parkinsonia aculeata	Jerusalem Thorn or Mexican Palo Verde
Pistacia chinensis	Chinese Pistache
Pittosporum undulatum	Victorian Box
Platanus acerifolia	London Plane Tree
Podocarpus gracilior	Fern Pine
Populus fremontii 'Nevada'	Nevada Male Cottonwood
Prunus cerasifera cultivars	Purple-Leaf Plum
Pyrus calleryana cultivars	Flowering Pear
Quercus agrifolia	Coast Live Oak
ilex	
lobata	Holly Oak or Holm Oak
suber	Valley Oak or California White Oak Cork Oak
Rhus lancea	
Dobinio ambiguo Ildobanniai	African Sumac
Robinia ambiqua 'Idahoensis'	Idaho Locust or Idaho Pink
Saplum sebiferum	Chinese Tallow Tree
Schinus terebinthifolius	Brazilian Pepper
Cognois compositor	O
Sequoia sempervirens	
Sophora japonica	Chinese Scholar Tree or Japanese Pagoda Tree

TALL SHRUBS

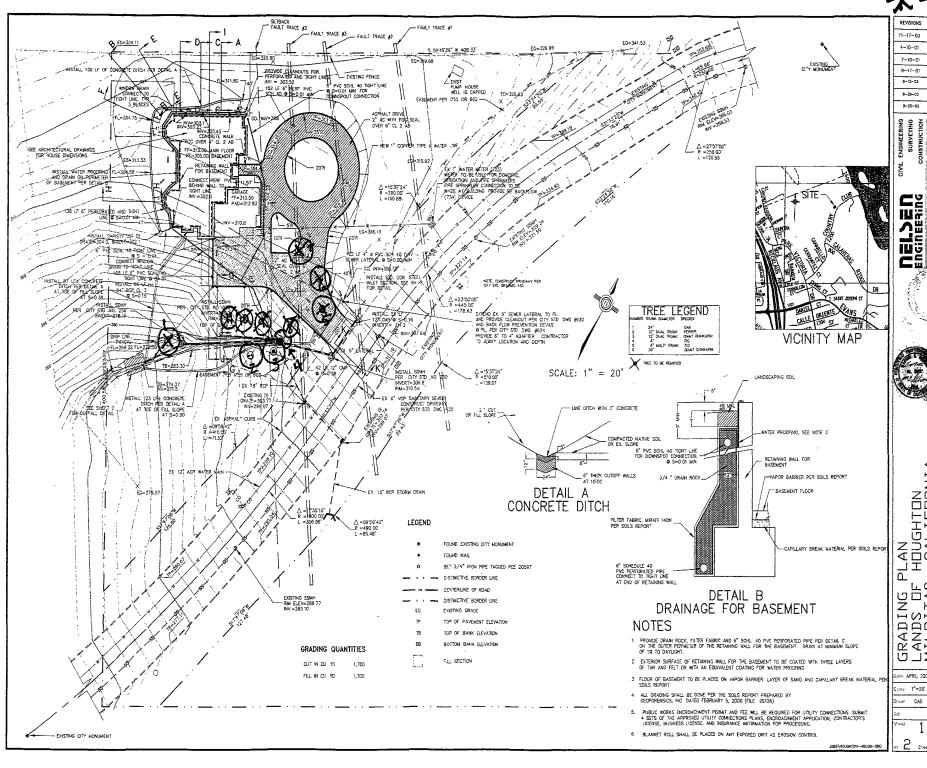
Abelia grandiflora Hibiscus huegelii Arbutus unedo Berberis darwinii thunbergii Buddleia davidii Callistemon citrinus Carpenteria californica Ceanothus 'Concha'	Glossy Abelia Blue Hibiscus Strawberry Tree Darwin's Barberry Japanese Barberry Butterfly Bush Lemon Bottlebrush Bush Anesome Concha Ceanothus
'Frosty Blue'	Frosty Blue Ceanothus
thyrsiflorus 'Skylark'	Blue Blossom

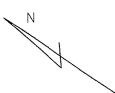
Cercis occidentalis	Western Redbud
Chaenomeles cultivars	Flowering Qunice
Cistus hybridus	White Rockrose
ladaniferus	Crimson Spot Rockrose
purpureus	Orchid Spot Rockrose
Cotnius coggygria	Smokebush
Cotoneaster lactea	Red Clusterberry
Elaeagnus pungens	Silverberry or Thorny Elaeagnus
Eriogonum arborescens	Santa Cruz Island Buckwheat
giganteum	St. Catherine's Lace
Escallonia 'Fradesi'	Frade's Escallonia
Euonymus japonica	Evergreen Euonymus
Euryops pectinatus	Golden Shrub Daisy
Feijoa sellowiana	Pineapple Guava
Forsythia intermedia	
'Lynwood Gold'	Border Forsythia
Fremontodendron hybrids	Flannel Bush
Garrya elliptica	Coast Silktassel
Genista lydia	Broom
Grevillea rosmarinifolia	Rosemary Grevillea
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon or Christmas Berry or California Holly
llex aquifolium	English Holly or Christmas Holly
cornuta 'Burfordii'	Burford Holly or Chinese Holly
Juniperus chinensis 'Torulosa'	
'Mint Julep'	Mint Julep Juniper
Leonotis leonurus	Lion's Tail
Leptospermum laevigatum	Australian Tea Tree
scoparium	
cultivars	New Zealand Tea Tree or Manuka
Ligustrum japonicum	Japanese Privet or Waxleaf Privet
ovalifolium	California Privet -
Mahonia aquifolium	Oregon Grape
pinnata	
Myrica californica	Pacific Wax Myrtle
Myrsine africana	
	Heavenly Bamboo or Sacred Bamboo
Nerium oleander	Oleander
Osmanthus fragrans	Sweet Olive
Philadelphus virginalis Phiomas fruticosa	Mock Orange
Phormium tenax	
Photina fraseri	
serrulata	Chinese Photina
Pittosporum eugenioides	Pittosporum
tenuifollum	
Plumbago surioulata	. Cape Plumbago
Podocarpus macrophyllus	Yew Pine
Prunus caroliniana	
illicifolia	Hollyleat Cherry
lyonii	Catalina Cherry
lusitanica	Portugal Laurel
Punica granatum 'Wonderful'	. Pomegranate
Raphiolepis indica	India Mawthorn
umbellata	
Rhamnus californica	
Rhus integrifolia	
Ribes sanguineum	Fushels Flowering Goodberry
Sarcococca ruscifolia	Fuchsia-Flowering Gooseberry Fragrant Sarcococca
Syringa vulgaris	
Tecomaria capensis	
Viburnum suspensum	Sandankwa Viburnum
tinus	Laurnetinue
Xyiosma congestum	
rijioona oongestun aaaaaaaaaa	omij vyrodila

SHORT SHRUBS

Buxus microphylla japonica Japanese Boxwood Correa 'Carmine Bells' Australian Fuchsia

REVISIONS 11-17-00 4-10-01 EXISTING CLTY MONUMEN 9-17-01 8-12-03 8-29-03 IVIL ENGINEERING SURVEYING CONSTRUCTION (408) 257-6452 ON UN GHTI ZŌŒ ₹₫₫ J H N D Y HOH GRADI LANDS MILP Date APRIL 2000





PLANT IDENTIFICATION INDEX

PLANT NAME	SIZE	QUANITY
1. CUPRESSUS LEYLANDI (12'0.C.)	15gc	42
LEYLANDI CYPRESS	-	
2. QUERCUS OAK	Sqc	1
3 LIQUIDAMBAR	5gc	6
PALO ALTO	-	
4 MALUS BECHTEL	5gc	4
5. ULMUS DRAKE	5gc	6
6 PODOCARPUS GRACILIOR	5gc	5
7 RAPHIOLEPIS PINK LADY	5qc	12
8 CHOISYA TERNATA	Sqc	6
9. RAPHIOLEPIS BALLARINA	Sac	8
10 PRUNUS CAROLINIANA	5gc	6
11. BLUE SOLANUM STD.	5gc	2
12. VIBURNUM SUSPENSUM	5qc	6
13 LEPTOSPERMUM PINK	Sqc	5
14 DWF. JAPANESE MAPLE	15ac	2
15 ASPECIA	FLAT	10
16. ANISONTEA	Sac	6
17. PHOTINIA FRASERI	5qc	9
18. PHILODENDRON SELLOWEN	5gc	1
19. CAMFILIA SASANOUA	5qc	2
20 OSMANTHUS FRAGRANS	5gc	4
MISCELLANEOUS		
CEANOTHUS HORZONTALIS	5gc	100
ULMUS 'DRAKE'	5qc	6
LIQUIDAMBAR 'PALO ALTO'	5ac	4
MALUS BECHTEL	Sac	12
MALUS FLORIBUNDA	5ac	12
PYRUS KAWAKAMI	5aC	12
XYLOSMA COMPACTA	5ac	12
NANDINA COMPACTA	5gc	12
MAYTENUS BOARIA	5gc	6
BACCHARIS	FLAT	60
FREMONTIA MEXICANA	5qc	4
ARCTOSTAPHALOS	1ac	500
URVA URSI @ 6'OC	_	
·		

LANDSCAPE PLAN CALCULATIONS

ALLOWED - 58% LAWN - 3800 SQUARE FEET TOTAL

BACK OF HOUSE - 75 x 16 = 1200

LEFT SIDE HOUSE - 150 x 10 =1500

LEFT FRONT YARD - 15 x 30 = 450 RIGHT CENTER OF DRIVEWAY - 20 x 25 = 500

RIGHT SIDE HOUSE - 6 x 25 =150

TOTAL = 3800 SQUARE FEET

ALLOWED - 42% TREE & SHRUBS = 6104 SQUARE FEET TOTAL

ALONG ROAD - 200 x 10 = 2000

ALONG DRIVEWAY - 6 x 6 x 3 = 108 TWO TREES 10 x 10 x 2 = 200

BACK YARD TREES - 10 x 10 = 100

HILL GROUND COVER - 80 x 30 = 2400

CENTER OF DRIVEWAY ~ ((20)(20)-(5)(5))x PI = 1100

TOTAL = 5910 SQUARE FEET

IRRIGATION LAYOUT SYSTEM DS Drip System 6 500 Groundcover plants shrub & Tree Plantings BH Bubble Head Shade area plantings FH Full Head (2) Lawn Area 1/2 Head 2 Lown Area

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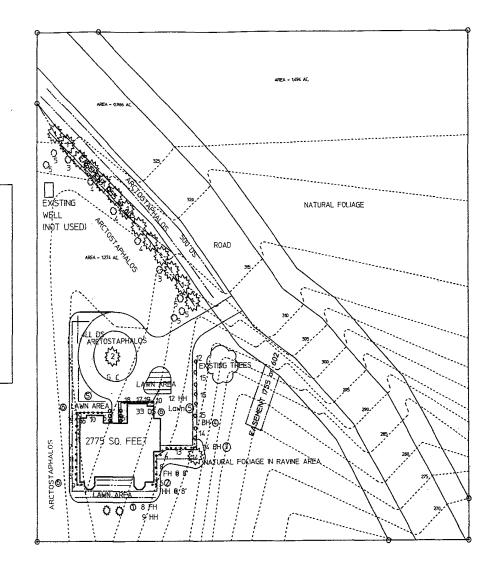
OC * on center

gc - gallon size

LEGEND



SHRUBS



Jac Rixon 2935 Driftwood Dr. (408) 866-5002

San Jose, CA 95128

HOUGHTON CALIFORNIA FOR Ш JOYI RESIDENCE യ ഗ് A RESIDERANK MILPITAS

8/16/99 JAC

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1 INCH' = 25 FOOT

2580